



HARRIS INCIDENT



MEDIA RELEASE

Release Date: Thursday, October 25, 2007 10:00 a.m.

Harris Fire Information Line (619) 449-1462

Evacuation Order Downgraded for Communities of Potrero and Tecate

Residents evacuated from Potrero and Tecate as a result of the Harris Fire will be allowed to return home after 12:00 p.m. today. Residents need to understand that they are returning to communities that are still under an "Evacuation Warning".

Although the current fire and emergency threat to this area has been mitigated, residents must continually monitor the fire situation. Fire conditions may change and require an Evacuation Order for these communities. In addition, phone service to these areas may not be restored which will limit the ability of the Reverse 911 system to notify residents of evacuation changes. To ensure that residents are promptly notified, the San Diego Sheriff's Department has pre-positioned a team of deputies in the area to notify residents if fire conditions change requiring an "Evacuation Order".

Important information for re-entry into the Potrero and Tecate communities:

1. The area will only be open to residents with identification.
2. No large animals will be re-admitted in the "Evacuation Warning" area. Large animals will be allowed back in when all evacuations have been rescinded for this area.
3. Residents will have to access the Tecate and Potrero area from Highway 8 East to Buckman Springs Road to Highway 94 West. The road closure on Highway 94 two miles east of Harris Ranch Road will be relocated to Highway 94 and SR 188. An additional CHP road block at Highway 94 and Forest Gate Road will be established to ensure that only residents are allowed access to the Potrero and Tecate areas. Residents will not be permitted through Highway 94 from the West.

Harris Fire and Law Enforcement Officials are committed to getting residents back to their homes as soon as it is safe. Information will be provided on additional evacuation changes as soon as it becomes available.

For additional information on the Harris Fire contact Harris Fire Information Line at 619-449-1462 or at the CAL FIRE website at www.fire.ca.gov.

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